

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 SCCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 OFA-01 DLOS-04 TRSE-00

COME-00 TAR-01 FRB-03 AID-05 /098 W

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R 081500Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5731

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, EG, MX

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S VISIT TO EGYPT

REF: A. MEXICO 6955 (NOTAL) B. MEXICO 6957 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. MEXICAN PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S FOUR-DAY VISIT TO EGYPT AUGUST 4-7 NOTABLE MAINLY FOR ITS LACK OF POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE HERE AS NON-EVENT. EXCEPT FOR ECHEVERRIA'S MEETING AUGUST 5 WITH PLO LEADER YASIR ARAFAT AT WHICH MEXICAN RECOGNITION OF PLO ANNOUNCED, VISIT FOLLOWED FAMILIAR PATH OF OFFICIAL DISCUSSIONS, ENTERTAINMENTS, AND SIGHTSEEING, CAPPED BY JOINT COMMUNIQUE. END SUMMARY.

2. MEXICAN PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA CONCLUDED FOUR-DAY VISIT TO EGYPT AUGUST 7 ACCOMPANIED BY PARTY OF 150 PERSONS. EGYPTIAN PRESS
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MADE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, OUT OF WHAT WAS AN EVENT OF NO POLITICAL

SIGNIFICANCE, BUT LITTLE SEEMS TO HAVE EMERGED FROM MEETINGS WITH SADAT EXCEPT JOINT COMMUNIQUE STRESSING THEMES ALREADY FAMILIAR FROM ECHEVERRIA'S STOPS IN KUWAIT AND JIDDA.

3. ECHEVERRIA ROADSHOW ARRIVED CAIRO AUG 4. LATIN AMERICAN DIPLOMATS HAVE INFORMED EMBOFF THAT PROTOCOL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ECHEVERRIA ARRIVAL RATHER SPOTTY. ONLY SIX LATIN AMERICAN CHIEFS OF MISSION GOT TO AIRPORT ON TIME FOR ARRIVAL WHERE THEY WERE JOINTED BY ERRONEOUSLY-INVITED ALBANIAN AMBASSADOR. MEXICAN GROUP PROCEEDED TO ALEXANDRIA WHERE THEY WERE LODGED AT RAS AL-TIN PALACE. AT DINNER PARTY IN HONOR OF MEXICANS EVENING AUG 4, SADAT AWARDED ECHEVERRIA COLLAR OF THE NILE AND IN TURN RECEIVED COLLAR OF THE GOLDEN EAGLE FROM MEXICAN PRESIDENT. EGYPTIAN FORMER FAHMY, TOLD CHARGE THAT, THOUGH ANNOYED AT SIZE OF ECHEVERRIA'S ENTOURAGE, THEY FOUND HIM TO BE AGREEABLE, INTELLIGENT MAY, IF A BIT STUBBORN. ACCORDING TO FAHMY, NO MENTION WAS MADE OF ECHEVERRIA'S RUMORED INTEREST IN UN SECRETARY GENERALSHIP, AND, IN ANY EVENT, HE WAS VIEWED AS UNLIKELY CANDIDATE, BY GOE, GIVEN HIS INDEPENDENT OPINIONS AND EGYPTIAN SATISFACTION WITH UNSYG WALDHEIM'S PERFORMANCE.

4. OFFICIAL TALKS BETWEEN THE TWO PRESIDENTS WERE HELD FOLLOWING MORNING AT RAS AL-TIN PALACE, AND ECHEVERRIA GAVE DINNER FOR SADAT THERE IN THE EVENING. MOST OF REST OF MEXICAN PRESIDENT'S TIME CONSUMED IN HEAVY SIGHTSEEING SCHEDULE, INCLUDING TRIP TO UPPER EGYPT. A NUMBER OF TRADE PROTOCOLS AS WELL AS CULTURAL AGREEMENTS AND AGREEMENT ON TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION WERE REPORTEDLY AGREED ON AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETINGS DURING THE FOUR DAYS.

5. ECHEVERRIA HAD HOUR-AND-HALF MEETING WITH PLO LEADER YASIR ARAFAT AUGUST 5 FOLLOWED BY JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE AT WHICH ECHEVERRIA REAFFIRMED HIS SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIAN CAUSE AND ANNOUNCED MEXICAN RECOGNITION OF PLO AS SOLE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIANS. BOTH LEADERS DREW PARALLEL BETWEEN MEXICAN AND PALESTINIANS QTE STRUGGLES UNQTE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEETING DREW FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE IN CAIRO PRESS, WITH PHOTO SHOWING ARAFAT AND MEXICAN PRESIDENT ARM-IN-ARM.

6. IN JOINT MEXICAN-EGYPTIAN COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AUGUST 6, ECHEVERRIA REAFFIRMED MEXICAN SUPPORT FOR FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF UN MID-EAST RESOLUTIONS, CALLED FOR ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES, EXPRESSED APPROVAL OF SADAT'S EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE MID-EAST PEACE, AND SUPPORT FOR PROPOSALS TO MAKE

MID EAST A NUCLEAR FREE ZONE.

7. SADAT IN TURN SUPPORTED ECHEVERRIA'S PROPOSALS FOR DEVELOPING THIRD-WORLD THROUGH JOINT POLICIES RE MAINTAINING RAW MATERIALS PRICES, MARKETING EXPORTS, AND IMPORTING CAPITAL GOODS AND TECHNOLOGY. COMMUNIQUE AFFIRMED TWO PRESIDENTS' BELIEF IN THIRD-WORLD COUNTRIES' RIGHTS TO COMPLETE ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE, INCLUDING FULL RIGHTS TO EXPLOIT THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES IN MANNER THAT BEST FULFILLS ASPIRATION OF THEIR PEOPLE, AND CALLED FOR IMMEDIATE AND FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF UN CHARTER ON ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES. SADAT ACCEPTED INVITATION TO VISIT MEXICO AT DATE TO BE FIXED LATER, AND AN EGYPTIAN MINISTERIAL MISSION WILL VISIT MEXICO TO STUDY WAYS TO INCREASE TRADE. COMMUNIQUE ALSO REAFFIRMED ECHEVERRIA'S SUPPORT OF PALESTINIAN RIGHTS AND HIS RECOGNITION OF PLO.

8. EMBASSY UNABLE TO SHED ANY LIGHT ON RABASA'S REPUTED REMARKS RE 200 MILE ECONOMIC ZONE (MEXICO 6957). ACCORDING TO UPI BUREAU CHIEF HERE, STORY WAS NOT FILED BY ANY LOCAL JOURNALIST, BUT PROBABLY BY MEXICAN JOURNALIST WITH ECHEVERRIA'S PARTY. NO MENTION OF SUBJECT IN CAIRO PRESS.

9. REGARDING ECHEVERRIA'S REPORTED PROPOSAL FOR THIRD WORLD ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION (MEXICO 6955), REPORTS OF HIS SPEECH IN CAIRO PRESS USED WORK QTE SYSTEM UNQTE EXCLUSIVELY (ARABIC: NIZAM) RATHER THAN QTE ORGANIZATION UNQTE. DETAILS OF PROPOSAL AS REPORTED ARE SKETCHY AND CONFUSING. FOLLOWING IS COMPOSITE OF TRANSLATION ECHEVERRIA'S REMARKS DRAWN FROM LOCAL DAILIES AHRAM AND GUMHURIYYA. QTE ECHEVERRIA SAID IN HIS SPEECH AT THE DINNER PARTY GIVEN IN HIS HONOR BY SADAT: THE TEST WHICH WE FACE IN THE FUTURE IS THAT WE ESTABLISH A NEW ECONOMIC SYSTEM WHICH PROVIDES A REAL SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF OUR AGE. SUCH A SOLUTION IS NOT BUILT ON DEMAGOGIC BASES OR MERE SLOGANS AND WORDS, BUT IS BASED ON A SYSTEM FOR RELATIONS AMONG THE COUNTRIES OF THE THIRD WORLD, AND THUS FACILITATES THE BEST USE OF THEIR RESOURCES AND ENABLES THEM TO BE IN A BETTER POSITION IN NEGOTIATING OVER OIL, RAW MATERIALS, PRICES, AND THE MARKETING OF EXPORT PRODUCTS UNQTE (GUMHURRIYA)

11. QTE UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WE PROPOSE A SYSTEM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE THIRD WORLD. IN THIS WAY THE COUNTRIES OF THE THIRD WORLD WILL BE QUALIFIED TO PARTICIPATE IN TRUE CONTROL ON EXCHANGES WHICH HAVE SO FAR BEEN LIMITED TO SUPPLY AND DEMAND BY ECONOMIC EMPIRES. THE SYSTEM WHICH WE PROPOSE IS BUILT ON TWO BASES: FIRST THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FUND IN WHICH EACH COUNTRY WOULD PARTICIPATE ACCORDING TO THE SIZE OF

HER INTERNATIONAL TRADE. THE RESOURCES OF THIS FUND WILL BE EMPLOYED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF A GENERAL STRATEGY WHICH IN THE LONG RUN WOULD OVERCOME CONFLICTING CONDITIONS AND SERVE INTERESTS THROUGH AGREEMENTS BETWEEN PRODUCERS AND OVERSEAS COMPANIES UNQTE (AHRAH). QTE SECOND: THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNIFIED TARIFF AMONG THESE COUNTRIES UNQTE. (GUMHURRIYA)

12. COMMENT: FROM EVIDENCE AVAILABLE HERE, ECHEVERRIA'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEXICAN RECOGNITION OF PLO GOES ONE STEP BEYOND PREVIOUS MEXICAN POSITION OF SUPPORT OF QTE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF PALESTINIANS UNQTE WHICH MEXICAN PRESIDENT HAS FREQUENTLY VOICED IN RECENT DAYS. NO ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE CONCERNING OPENING OF PLO OFFICE IN MEXICO, HOWEVER, DESPITE UNCONFIRMED UPI DISPATCH TO THAT EFFECT WHICH APPEARED IN LOCAL CAIRO PAPER AUGUST 6 (DATELINE AUGUST 5, MEXICO CITY). MEXICAN EMBOFF AFFIRMED TO EMBOFF THAT NO DECISION REACHED YET IN THAT REGARD.
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